उस रिपोर्ट में यह भी कहा गया है कि 1970 के दशक तथा 1980 के दशक के प्रारम्भ से मध्य तक के दौरान, गरीबी को व्यापकता में गिरावट आई है और दक्षिण भारत में गरीबी के आपात में तेजी से गिरावट आई जिससे अब 3/5 से अधिक गरीब पूर्वी तथा मध्यवर्ती राज्यों में हैं ।

(घ) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के लिए दृष्टिकोण बनाया जा रहा है । राष्ट्रीय प्रतिदर्श सर्वेक्षण के 43वें चक्र के अनंतिम निष्कर्षों पर आधारित तथा जिस कार्यप्रणाली का प्रयोग सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना तैयार करते समय किया गया था उसी का प्रयोग करते हुए वर्ष 1987-88 में गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे जीवन पालन करने वाले लोगों की संख्या जनसंख्या का 29.2 प्रतिशत है ।

**इलाहाबाद में गंगा जल का प्रदूषण**

1830. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इलाहाबाद में गंगा जल कितना प्रदूषित हो गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह जल स्नान करने के योग्य नहीं है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस जल को प्रदूषण-मुक्त करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

**पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री साथ में कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्रीमती मेनका गांधी) :** (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड द्वारा स्नान के लिए निर्धारित की गई जल गुणवत्ता सूचकांक सीमा के सन्दर्भ में इलाहाबाद में वर्ष 1984 से 1989 तक जल गुणवत्ता में सुधार की प्रवृत्ति पाई गई है । डी0ओ0 और पी0एच0, ये दो पैरामीटर स्नान-योग्य जल के लिए स्वीकार्य सीमा तक लगातार मिलते रहे है और बी0ओ0डी0 में भी सुधार की प्रवृत्ति पाई गई हैं । तथापि, स्नान योग्य जल की सीमा से कॉलिफॉर्म की संख्या अधिक रही है । गंगा कार्य योजना के अन्तर्गत इलाहाबाद में हाथ ; ली जाने वाली स्कीमों के पूरा हो जाने पर जल गुणवत्ता में और अधिक सुधार होने की संभावना है ।

(ग) गंगा कार्य योजना के अन्तर्गत, 21.65 करोड़ रुपये की वर्तमान संशोधित लागत पर 18 स्कीमें इलाहाबाद नगर के लिए अनुमोदित की गई हैं । इनमें से 10 स्कीमें पूरी हो चुकी हैं और अन्य स्कीमें कार्यान्वयन के विभिन्न चरणों में हैं । इलाहाबाद में हाथ में ली गई स्कीमों में नगर महापालिका अपशिष्ट जल के अवगोधन एवं दिशा-परिवर्तन की स्कीमें सीवेज उपचार संयंत्र, अल्प-लागत स्वच्छता निर्माण-कार्य, विद्युत शवदाह गृह तथा नदी तटाग्र सुविधाएं शामिल हैं ।

***Supply of Irradiated food***

†1830-A. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a food Irradiation Unit in Cochin;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that Australian Government is considering to ban irradiated food and that Japan has already banned its imports;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no method to test the irradiated food and that there is no scientific unanimity on such food being free from radio activity; and

(d) if so, what measures are contemplated by Government to ensure that irradiated food rejected by other countries is not dumped into the country by offering heavy discounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL

†Previously Unstarred Question 1484 transferred from the 26th March, 1990.

CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have decided to set up a demonstration irradiation facility for spices at Cochin.

(b) No Sir. The Government are not aware of any moratorium on irradiated foods in Australia. Our information is that the issue is presently under the Australian Government's consideration. In Japan irradiated food is being used. However, imports are not allowed because Japan does not feel assured of the reliability of regulation and control procedures in irradiation in other countries.

(c) While there is no universal method suitable for detection of all the irradiated foods, methods are available for detection in specific items like spices etc. It is a fact that irradiation for preservation does not produce any radioactivity in the food. In fact this is one of the reasons that it is difficult to distinguish irradiated food.

(d) Irradiation Plants use very high intensity Gamma radiation source. They are generally licensed by national regulatory bodies and are registered by IAEA. Products irradiated in such plants are usually pre-packed and labelled so that the consumer is aware of what he is buying. These regulations have been arrived at by international consultations under WHO and IAEA. Code of practice for irradiation has been promulgated by Codes Alimentarius Commission.

India does not import fast decaying food items like Potatoes and Onions. The dose of irradiation of grains is limited to 25 kilo rads and are accepted as safe by International Commission. Irradiation is an expensive process and there is no incentive to irradiate beyond this limit from a commercial point of view. Therefore it is unlikely that grains will be imported into this country which have been excessively irradiated. Since import is restricted to Government agencies, the source is well known and the processes of packing and delivery are also known to the importing organisations. Care taken by the latter in consultation with the Deptt. of Atomic Energy and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare can ensure that irradiated food likely to be harmful or rejected by other countries is not dumped into this country. In any case, Government will not agree to such imports because of heavy discounts.

**Clearance of power projects from the environmental angle**

@1830-B. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are evolving a standard rehabilitation package to help quick clearance of power projects from the environmental angle;

(b) if so, what are the details of the power projects which have not been cleared from the environmental angle; and

(c) by when these power projects are likely be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI (MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Thirty power projects are pending for environmental clearance as on 1st March, 1990. The details are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 77.]

(c) The project proposals will be considered for a decision from environmental angle within three months, from the date of submission of complete information to this Ministry.

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@Previously Unstarred Question 1588 transferred from the 26th March, 1990.